

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

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ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-19 NIC-01

DRC-01 /162 W

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R 251104Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6171

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA 611

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USUN NEW YORK 2550

USINT BAGHDAD

USINT CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

S E C R E T BEIRUT 0945

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR US XF

SUBJECT: SOV VIEWS ON DISENGAGEMENT

REF: BEIRUT 0804

1. CONVERSATIONS WITH TASS REP AND HUNGARIAN CHARGE REVEAL AT LEAST LOCAL SOV PIQUE (EXPRESSED PUBLICLY IN FORM OF CRITICISM BY COMMUNIST PRESS (BEIRUT 0804 AND 0920) AT CREDIT WHICH USG WINNING FOR EGYPTIAN-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT.

2. TASS REP KOPYTIN TOLD EMBOFF THAT AMBASSADOR

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AZIMOV UPSET BY ROLE WHICH USG HAD PLAYED IN DIS-ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY SECRETARY'S PERSONAL

INVOLVEMENT AS GO-BETWEEN RATHER THAN HAVING REPS OF TWO GOVTs WORK OUT AGREEMENT IN GENEVA. AZIMOV REPORTEDLY CONVICTED USG HAS DELIBERATELY REMOVED TALKS FROM GENEVA IN ORDER MAXIMIZE ITS OWN GAIN AT EXPENSE OF SOV CO- CHAIRMAN. EMBOFF OBSERVED THAT QUESTION WAS REALLY ONE OF WHICH NEGOTIATING POCEDURE WAS MOST EFFECTIVE. THERE HAS BEEN SIX MEETINGS OF MILITARY REPS AT GENEVA WHICH HAD FAILED TO PRODUCE AGREEMENT, WHEREAS SECRETARY'S TRIP HAD DONE THE JOB. FURTHERMORE, AS SECRETARY HAD SAID IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, USSR WAS KEPT INFORMED BY USG EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

3. TASS REP ADMITTED THERE VALIDITY IN THIS ARGUEMENT, ALTHOUGH HIGHLY-VISIBLE USG ROLE STILL RANKLED. HE ADDED THAT WHEN IT COMES TO SYRIAN-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, USSR WOULD HAVE TO PLAY MORE DIRECT ROLE, IF ONLY BECAUSE SARG WOULD BE CONSTANTLY CONSULTING USSR, AND IT HAD ALREADY BEGUN TO DO SO, BEFORE MOVING AHEAD. USSR HAS IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN SYRIA, ACCORDING TO KOPYTIN, AND MUST BE PART OF DISENGAGEMENT PROCESS.

EMBOFF SAID HE UNAWARE OF WHAT HAD BEEN SAID BETWEEN SECRETARY AND SYRIAN OFFICIALS CONCERNING DISENGAGEVENT.

4. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, HUNGARIAN CHARGE SAID THAT SOVS VERY ANNOYED AT USG EFFORTS OBTAIN ALL CREDIT FOR DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, SQUEEZING SOVS OUT. HE REFERRED TO PRESIDENT'S INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF AGREEMENT WHICH MADE IT APPEAR TO BE ENTIRELY RESULT OF USG EFFORTS AND HAD NO REFERENCE TO GENEVA. HOWEVER, CHARGE ADMITTED THAT SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE WAS VERY CONSIDERATE OF ROLE OF USSR AND THAT THIS HAD HELPED REDUCE RESENTMENT. HOUGHTON

SECRET

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